AUSTRIAN INFORMATION

Published by the Information Department of THE AUSTRIAN CONSULATE GENERAL

509 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK 17, N. Y. TELEPHONE: MURRAY HILL 7-4766

VOL. III # 4 March 31, 1950

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT SUBMITS 23-POINT PROPOSAL TO EASE OCCUPATION BURDEN.

On March 8, Austrian Foreign Minister Dr. Karl Gruber read to the Austrian Parliament a memorandum containing 23 points, delivered to the Big Four on the previous day, for alleviating the occupation. The text of the memorandum follows:

"The Foreign Ministers' Deputies have decided to adjourn further deliberations on the draft of the Austrian State Treaty until April 26, 1950. On the occasion of this new adjournment of negotiations, the Federal Government wishes to stress with all forcefulness that it expects the four treaty-writing powers to complete the treaty with utmost dispatch. It therefore again requests the four Powers negotiating the treaty to leave no stone unturned to bring about a speedy settlement of the State Treaty.

"The Federal Government continues to be of the opinion that agreement on all questions connected with Article 48b of the treaty would represent a decisive progress in the direction of the draft treaty's completion. It therefore notes with regret that, despite repeated and urgent appeals, the Soviet Government has still not replied to the proposals of the Federal Government for a settlement of these questions. It is consequently once more forced to request the Soviet Government to submit its reply as early as possible. But inasmuch as the Federal Government does not know how long it will take the competent Soviet authorities to study the Austrian proposals and when, therefore, the Soviet Government will be in a position to forward a final reply, and, furthermore, in view of the repeated delays in completing the treaty, the Austrian Government is faced with the necessity of submitting to the Governments of the four occupation powers a set of proposals intended to bring immediate relief to the position of the Austrian people."

The 23-point proposal submitted by the Austrian Government follows:

"1. Assumption of the costs of occupation by the Governments of the Soviet Union, Great Britain and France, in the same manner as these costs are already now being assumed by the Government of the United States of America.

"2. Large-scale reduction in the size of the occupation forces.

"3. Release of requisitioned housing.

"4. Waiver of military jurisdiction.

"5. Discontinuance of arrests of Austrians by organs of the occupation powers.

"6. Complete subjection of all aliens - members of the occupation forces excepted - to Austrian law.

"7. Authorization for the executive branch of the Austrian Government to arrest individuals wearing the uniform of any one of the occupation powers and to hold such persons in custody until they are handed over to the occupation power concerned, should such measures be necessary for the prevention of serious crimes or escape; moreover, that the Austrian executive be empowered to use arms in carrying out these arrests.

"8. Lifting of the restrictions still imposed on Austrian sovereignty with regard to the issuance of visas to certain groups of individuals.

"9. Removal of zonal controls and all other internal Austrian traffic controls, or at least transfer of these controls to the Austrian executive.

"10. Desistance from interference by the occupation powers in purely Austrian personnel provisions and full re-establishment of Austrian sovereignty in personnel matters.

"11. Discontinuance of any and all censorship of postal and news communications; extensive reduction in the use of Austrian postal and telegraphic facilities for occupation purposes.

"12. Opportunity for unrestricted postal communications with all countries, in accordance with the regulations of the International Postal Convention.

"13. Transfer of all radio stations to Austria and desistance from interference in broadcast programming.

"14. Desistance from interference in the execution of Austrian laws and regulations approved by due process of law.

"15. Limitation of inquiries for information addressed to Austrian authorities.

"16. Desistance from all interference in forestry, game and fishery matters.

"17. Desistance from all interference by local occupation authorities in Austrian administration of justice.

"18. Constitutional pardons granted by the Federal President to apply also to cases of military court sentences, in so far as the latter were delivered for actions which are also punishable under Austrian law.

"19. Explicit renunciation of any pre-publication censorship or any other exertion of influence on school texts to be introduced by Austrian education authorities.

"20. Desistance from confiscation of books, newspapers and other printed matter.

"21. Discontinuance of compulsory transportation certificates for breeding and work animals (horses, cattle, hogs), for rationed foodstuffs, as well as for variegated and black metals (scrap), various machines and spare parts such as electrical products; discontinuance of compulsory authentication for transports of unrationed foodstuffs.

"22. Discontinuance of compulsory authorization now required for decisions of the Federal Electrification Authority.

"23. Renunciation of interference in the activity of the Austrian Road Administration."

AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT PREPARING WHITE PAPER ON ARTICLE 48b OF TREATY. After reading the Austrian memorandum submitted to the Big Four, Foreign Minister Gruber told Parliament that the Government was preparing a White Paper on the State Treaty negotiations soon to be released to the public. He said that the forthcoming documentary report would present the background of the talks, which would enable the Austrian people to judge for themselves what consequences they had to draw from the situation.

"On March 1, at the 251st meeting of the treaty negotiations, in London," Dr. Gruber said, "Deputy Zarubin declared that he was unable to alter his position on Articles 42 and 48 so long as the negotiations with the Austrian Government on Article 48b were not completed. But as far back as December 5 of last year, Austria had already submitted its proposals to Russia in a letter of the Federal Chancellor to the Soviet High Commissioner. To date, no reply to the substance of the Austrian proposals has been received. Fully conscious of my unqualified responsibility, I therefore tell you this: if the great powers, and especially the Soviet Union, really want to complete the State Treaty, there is a simple expedient: reply to the proposals of the Austrian Government, enter into substantive negotiations with it regarding them; the treaty will then be concluded within eight to ten days. In my opinion the Austrian people are no longer interested in meetings, but only in progress, on the subject of the State Treaty."

DEAN ACHESON ON AUSTRIA. In his major foreign policy address in Berkeley, Cal., on March 15, Secretary of State Dean Acheson made the following reference to the Austrian situation:

"With regard to Austria, that unhappy country is still under occupation because the Soviet leaders do not want a treaty. The political and economic independence of Austria is being sabotaged by the determination of the Soviets, camouflaged in technicalities, to maintain their forces and special interests in eastern Austria."

U.S. MINISTER TO AUSTRIA CALLED TO WASHINGTON FOR CONSULTATIONS. John G. Erhardt, U.S. Minister to Austria, arrived in Washington on March 15, for consultation with the State Department. It is believed that during his visit Austria's recent note to the four occupation powers requesting alleviation of the occupation burden will also be discussed.

The British Minister in Vienna, Sir Harold Caccia, had also been summoned to London for consultations with the Foreign Office.

3/3

CHA
Fig
Gov
its
abo
the
Aus
of
str

got
con
in
to
ad
a
Vi
su

AU
Ex
Sa
se
on

U.
Co
Ch
he
cr
be
di
co

AU
co
cu
Fo
He
in
at

9
I
o
s
c
t
a

p
t
s

a
t
w

A
(

CHANCELLOR FIGL SUGGESTS BIG FOUR TALK IN VIENNA. Chancellor Leopold Figl suggested in an AP interview on March 11 that the Austrian Federal Government would welcome with great joy a meeting of the Big Four in its capital. In reply to the correspondent's query on how he felt about a proposal of former U.S. presidential candidate Harold Stassen that a Big Four conference be called in Vienna, the head of the Austrian Government declared: "A meeting of the responsible leaders of the big powers would certainly lead to a decided relaxation in the strained international situation."

Commenting on this "unofficial invitation to the Big Four," a government spokesman said that Vienna would be the ideal spot for a conference of the big powers. All four powers would have available in Vienna their own buildings, direct communications and news channels to their capitals, as well as their own interpreting facilities. He added that the Austrian Government would place at the disposal of such a conference the famous Congress Hall at the Chancellery, in which the Vienna Congress met in 1814/15. Schoenbrunn Castle would also be suitable for the conference.

AUSTRIA ESTABLISHES DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH BOLIVIA. Minister Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Josef Kripp, Austria's envoy in Santiago de Chili and her diplomatic representative in Bolivia, presented his credentials to President Mamerto Urrulagoitia of Bolivia on March 1, 1950.

U.S. LIMITS JURISDICTION OF ITS MILITARY COURTS IN AUSTRIA. U.S. High Commissioner Lt. Gen. Geoffrey Keyes announced in a letter to Austrian Chancellor Leopold Figl that U.S. military courts for civilians would henceforth sharply reduce their hearings of criminal cases. Only crimes endangering the vital security of the U.S. High Command would be prosecuted by the U.S. courts in Austria, in accordance with ordinance No. 200. All other offenses will be turned over to Austrian courts.

AUSTRIAN VICE CHANCELLOR SCHAERF IN LONDON. In mid-March Vice Chancellor Dr. Adolf Schaerf made a brief trip to London where he discussed a number of questions, now being considered by the British Foreign Office, with Parliamentary Undersecretary of State Lord Henderson. The main reason for Dr. Schaerf's visit was to participate in a meeting of the International Socialist Organization (COMISCO) at Hastings.

99 AUSTRIAN POLICE AGENTS KILLED SINCE 1945. The Austrian Minister of Interior announced that 99 police agents have been killed in the line of duty and 224 injured since 1945. In 1949 five were killed and 45 severely injured. These figures reflect a slight improvement in security conditions. The Ministry attributes the large number of victims to the fact that Austrian police agents are still inadequately armed to meet the situation.

During the past year Austrian police agents apprehended 88,110 persons guilty of crimes, misdemeanors and infractions of the law; the total property recovered by the police amounted to 36 million schillings.

The further training of police agents is receiving priority attention. In 1949 eight alpine courses, as well as 65 general training courses were given. During the same period sixteen officers were taught police dog training.

AUSTRIA PAID RUSSIA 2.5 BILLION SCHILLINGS TO DATE FOR OCCUPATION COSTS. In the course of a debate on the Occupation Costs Taxation Act in the Austrian Parliament on March 8, Socialist Deputy Weikhart revealed that since 1945 Russia had received 2.5 billion schillings from Austria in military occupation costs alone. In the same period all four occupation powers received 5.3 billion schillings in military and civil occupation costs. This sum, the deputy said, would have made possible the construction of 100,000 new homes. In military occupation costs alone, the Americans received 407 million schillings, the British 841 million and the French 735 million. In 1949 military and civil occupation cost payments amounted to 518.7 million schillings as against a revenue of 244.9 million derived from the occupation tax levied in accordance with the act, thus leaving an uncovered deficit of 273.8 million.

Deputy Gorbach of the People's Party described the act as symbolizing a situation in which grief, pain, disgrace and indignation

were being inflicted on the Austrian people and added: "We regarded the Allies as the restorers of our freedom and we placed almost unlimited faith in them. The Austrian people have now had close to five years in which to compare the written declarations and rhetorical promises of the great powers with their practical deeds and the realities of the situation. The verdict of the Austrian people is a scathing one. They do not presume to judge whether the catastrophic situation in which mankind finds itself today is due to the incompetence or the thirst for power of some or all of the victorious nations, or whether it is due to the fact that man's own engines of war and dreams of power have grown too big for him. But they will present to the victorious powers a balance-sheet of what they have promised and what they have kept. Austria had been promised that she would be resurrected and now she is about to be crucified. The failure of the victorious powers to solve the Austrian question is a bad omen, because it is a manifest expression of unwillingness and incapability. Austria shares no guilt in this development. There is no such thing as an Austrian problem; - there is only a problem of the great powers in Austria".

The Occupation Costs Taxation Act was approved by a majority vote of the People's Party and Socialist deputies. A motion against the law submitted by Communist Deputy Fischer was defeated; it also contained a series of proposals to be submitted to the Allies for alleviating the occupation.

AUSTRIAN PARLIAMENT APPROVES NATIONAL BUDGET AFTER FIVE-WEEK DEBATE. On March 17 the Austrian Parliament finally approved the 1950 federal budget by a majority of combined People's Party and Socialist votes, in the face of prolonged opposition by the Union of Independents and Communists. In the close to five weeks of spirited debate the Austrian legislature had heard a total of 38 speakers present their views. Before the closing session, Speaker of the House Leopold Kunschak said that the deadline for acceptance of the budget, as required by the Constitution, could be kept only thanks to the exemplary work of the Finance and Budget Committee, which had held many night sessions to properly prepare the exhaustive material for a vote by the plenary body.

AUSTRIA TO ESTABLISH A "PRODUCTIVITY CENTER". On March 7 the Austrian Council of Ministers approved a proposal by Chancellor Leopold Figl to set up a two-men advisory committee which would be asked to draw up plans for the establishment of a public service association to be known as the "Austrian Productivity Center". The men appointed to the committee are: Dr. Wilhelm Taucher, a former Minister and now Director of the Central ERP Agency, and Dr. Franz Nemschak, Director of the Austrian Institute of Economic Research.

In connection with the ministerial decision, Dr. Taucher said that the technical assistance program of the ERP was of tremendous importance to Austria. Some of the functions of the new "Productivity Center" will be to explain the nature of the technical assistance program to the people, advise plants and factories in their efforts toward increased productivity, facilitate the exchange of experts, publicize the results of market surveys, and, finally, to obtain specialized literature, teaching aids, prototypes and drawings.

AUSTRIAN CONSUMERS' COOPERATIVES ALMOST DOUBLE MEMBERSHIP SINCE THE END OF THE WAR. According to the "Wiener Zeitung", Austrian Consumers' Cooperatives reached a membership figure of 202.698 families in January, 1950, as against 108.773 member families registered when activities were resumed after the war. This upward development is the more remarkable because of the great difficulties encountered by the Austrian cooperative movement at the end of the war in reorganizing itself. During the occupation of Austria by Nazi Germany, all cooperative societies were dissolved between January and August 1943 and all their assets taken over by the regional economic bodies established under German rule. The movement had already been weakened by the fact that the cooperative form of consumers' organization, the essence of which is democratic management strictly controlled by its members, does not lend itself to totalitarian administration by the state. Even today its reconstruction is still hampered because the position with regard to the above mentioned assets has not yet been fully clarified. During 1945 and 1946 one cooperative society was formed for each of the aforementioned regional economic bodies. At the end of 1948 there were 59 societies operating 1240 stores.

The last figures available before the German occupation, those of 1936, showed a total of 222 societies with approximately 250.000 member families.

IMPORT LICENSES NO LONGER REQUIRED FOR GIFT PARCELS OF LESS THAN 300 SCHILLINGS VALUE. According to new regulations announced by the Ministry of Trade, Austrians will henceforth be permitted to receive without import licenses personal gift parcels, of a value not in excess of 300 schillings, containing wine, distilled alcoholic spirits (liquor), salt, tobacco or tobacco products, providing that the contents of these packages are not intended for sale.

SHARP UPWARD TREND OF AUSTRIAN FOREIGN TRADE IN DECEMBER 1949. Recently released figures on Austria's foreign trade in 1949 reveal that Austrian commercial imports amounted to 616 million schillings in December 1949, as compared to 356 million in November. "Commercial" imports comprise all imports outside the scope of the European Recovery Program with the exception of those effected against drawing rights or under emergency coal deliveries. Exports totalled 405 million schillings against 265,7 million in November. These figures are the highest since the end of the war and reflect a steadily increasing adaptation to current world market conditions. Total imports for 1949 were 4,486.9 million schillings (1948: 2,602.3 million) and total exports 3,228.2 million schillings (1948: 1,983.7 million schillings). These figures represent a 72% increase in imports and a 63% increase in exports over the previous year.

AUSTRIAN FOREIGN TRADE TRANSACTIONS NOW MADE PUBLIC. All Austrian export and import transactions approved by the Foreign Trade Control Comission will henceforth be published in the weekly newspaper "Internationale Wirtschaft" (International Trade), according to a recent announcement by the Austrian Ministry of Trade.

AUSTRIA SIGNS TRADE TREATY WITH BRAZIL. On March 11, Austrian trade representatives in Rio de Janeiro signed a commodity exchange treaty and a payments agreement with Brazil for a trade volume of 8 million dollars in each direction. Under the new agreement Brazil will supply Austria with raw materials and foodstuffs, especially cotton, tobacco, coffee, cocoa, fats, frozen meat, iron ore and cowhides. In exchange, Austrian exports to Brazil will consist primarily of high-grade steel, iron and metal goods, precision instruments, agricultural machinery, Diesel motors, electrical supplies, cellulose, paper, chemicals and other finished products.

AUSTRIAN SHOE PRODUCTION COVERS DOMESTIC NEEDS. During the past year Austria produced a total of 3,816,000 pairs of leather shoes, 1,044,000 pairs of slippers and 17,000 pairs of heavy-duty wooden shoes. Semperit, Austria's largest rubber manufacturer produced 2,016,485 pairs of shoes wholly or partly made of rubber.

These 5,5 million leather shoes manufactured in 1937 represented an annual per capita output of 0,7 pairs. Production in 1947 amounted to 1,772,000 pairs and in 1948 to 2,225,000 pairs. In view of the reduced buying power of the population, the 1949 output is regarded in trade circles as sufficient to meet the domestic demand.

VIENNA HARBOR TRANSSHIPMENTS REACH 200,000 TON MARK. The harbor of Vienna, on the Danube, which in pre-war years had played an important part in Austria's trade connections with Southeastern Europe, increased its transit volume from 10,800 tons in 1948 to 58,300 tons in 1949, and its total shipments from 100,320 tons in 1948 to 195,650 tons in 1949.

This figures represent only a fraction of the harbor's actual capacity. In 1947 transshipments alone amounted to 1,070,518 tons. During World War II the tonnage handled was considerably larger. Although the harbor of Vienna was severely damaged, more than 40,000 kilometers of harbor tracks, a number of cranes, sliding platforms, elevators and warehouses are still in good operating condition.

Danube traffic in the American zone of Austria (Linz-Regensburg), in 1949, totalled 847,000 tons. Of these, 770,000 tons, primarily Ruhr coal, went downstream to Linz and 77,000 tons upstream to Regensburg, the latter consisting mainly of pig iron and heavy sheet metal exports from the Linz foundry to the Benelux countries.

INNSBRUCK FAIR TO BE RESUMED THIS YEAR. The Innsbruck Export Fair will again be held this year from August 26 to September 3, after several years' interruption, it was recently announced by the Innsbruck Fair Administration.

ZITHERS IN GREAT DEMAND AT VIENNA SPRING FAIR. The extraordinary success of Austrian zither virtuoso Anton Karas in the film "The Third Man" has created an unprecedented demand for zithers at the Vienna Spring Fair, and zither instrument makers have accepted orders that will keep their shops in full production for months to come. The zither craze has also led to renewed interest in zither instruction at Vienna's municipal music schools and the demand for instruction has grown to such an extent that the seven instructors can hardly cope with the sharp increase in student registrations. In the past, accordion and guitar instruction had been much more in demand.

AUSTRIAN INDUSTRY PROMOTES SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. The Association of Austrian Industrialists donated 1 million schillings for the promotion of scientific research, Dr. Hans Lauda, president of the association recently revealed in a speech. The money will be alloted to the following institutes and organizations: Academy of Sciences in Vienna and its Institute for Radium Research; the Universities of Vienna, Graz and Innsbruck; the Vienna and Graz Institutes of Technology; the Montanist Institute in Leoben; the Academies for World Trade and Agriculture in Vienna; and the "Union of Scientific Associations of Austria". The donation is primarily intended to promote research and innovations suitable for industrial exploitation.

DR. KLEINWAECHTER ATTENDS OPENING OF AUSTRIAN STAMP EXHIBITION IN PHILADELPHIA. On March 18, the Austrian Centenary Stamp Exhibition at the National Philatelic Museum in Philadelphia was formally opened with an official dinner and a preview, both attended by the Austrian Minister to Washington, Dr. Ludwig Kleinwaechter. Earlier in the day, Dr. Kleinwaechter had appeared on a television show and a radio broadcast transmitted over 90 stations of the NBC network, in which he paid tribute to the importance of the exhibition.

The unusual exhibition, which philatelists characterize as the most complete collection of Austrian stamps ever assembled, will run until April 17.

MONSIGNORE WEINBACHER APPOINTED VICAR GENERAL. On March 4, 1950 Cardinal Theodor Innitzer appointed Msgr. Jakob Weinbacher Vicar General of Austria to succeed Dr. Franz Kamprath. Dr. Weinbacher, who was twice arrested by the Nazis, has been director of the Caritas organization since 1945.

AMERICAN UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS TO LECTURE IN AUSTRIA. As part of the educational exchange program between the United States and Austria, Dr. Thomas D. Clark, Head of the History Department at the University of Kentucky, and Dr. Jay Broadus Hubbel, Professor of English at Duke University, will lecture at the University of Vienna during this year's summer session.

UNIVERSITY OF KANSAS CITY FLYING SEMINAR TO INCLUDE AUSTRIA. The University of Kansas City, in collaboration with the Bureau of University Travel of Newton, Mass., will offer a second Flying Seminar from July 5 to August 10 to give students and teachers an opportunity of obtaining firsthand information about post-war educational trends and the results of experiments in Western Europe.

The round trip under the direction of Prof. Paul L. Dengler, Professor of Education at the University of Kansas City, will include Great Britain, the Netherlands, Belgium, Austria, Switzerland and France. The all-inclusive price of $1,284 covers all expenses and costs.

ANOTHER AUSTRIAN STUDY GROUP TO SPEND 2 MONTHS IN U.S. Another group of 12 Austrians left for the United States on March 8 for a two month study trip through this country, as part of the special exchange program of the United States Forces in Austria. The group includes Leo Geiger, from the Union of Metalworkers; Alfred Stroer, head of the Youth Organization of the Austrian Federation of Labor; Dr. Ferdinanda Flossmann, from the Chamber of Labor; Walter Schwarz, Educational Division of the Austrian Federation of Labor; Dr. Richard Bamberger, Dr. Edith Halusa and Friederike Richter, librarians; Dr. Peter Lafite from the Ministry of Education; Dr. Adolf Meier from the Parents Association; Wilhelm Niessner, an expert of agricultural organizations; Wilhelm Schmidt, a public welfare official and Alfred Treipl an authority on education.

3/

AUS
15,
wi
Au
58
41
-

FI
pr
Sa
th
co
co
se
Th
Sc
wo
In
do
wi
an

Ba
wi
St
Ju
ti
ci
no
ju
ho
an

Tw
wi
tr
he
wa
wh
Be

Al
ar
tr
re
wa
co

Mo
oc
e
t

Em
wo
t

f

W
k
K
"
w
n
a
o

V
(
s
m
u
I
r
s
t

AUSTRIAN RADIO STATIONS CHANGE POSITION ON BROADCASTING BAND. On March 15, European radio stations changed their wave lengths in accordance with the "Copenhagen Plan." Here are the new wave lengths of some of Austria's 12 transmitters: Vienna - 513.7 m (formerly 506.8 m) and 584 Kc (formerly 592 Kc), Red-White-Red network, Vienna outlet - 412.1 m (formerly 410 m) and 728 Kc (formerly 731 Kc); Salzburg outlet - 240 m (formerly 236.8 m) and 1250 Kc (formerly 1267 Kc.)

FINAL PROGRAM OF SALZBURG FESTIVAL CONCERTS MADE PUBLIC. The final program of the orchestral concerts to be presented at this year's Salzburg Festival has now been made public. The first of these, under the baton of Karl Boehm, will be an all-Mozart concert. The second, conducted by Rafael Kubelik, will include works by Mozart and Slavic composers. For the third concert, conductor Wilhelm Furtwaengler has selected works by Cherubini, Brahms, Stravinsky and Richard Strauss. The fourth, under Josef Krips, will be devoted exclusively to Franz Schmidt's "The Book with the Seven Seals". Bruno Walter will conduct works by Beethoven, Mozart and Mahler in the fifth and sixth concerts. In the seventh, Hans Knappertsbusch will feature compositions by Theodor Berger, Tschaikovsky and Bruckner. The eighth and last concert will present Wilhelm Furtwaengler in works by Johann Sebastian Bach and Beethoven.

BACH EXHIBITION TO BE HELD IN VIENNA STATE OPERA. A Bach Exhibition will be held in the newly rebuilt foyer of the severely damaged Vienna State Opera on the occasion of the International Bach Festival from June 1 to 15, 1950. Vienna's five music libraries, the State Collection of Instruments, the Bach Society and the Protestant Supreme Council, in their joint sponsorship of the exhibition, are eager to honor not only the lifework of the great composer himself, but also to do justice to the art of his sons. The exhibition will attempt to show how much the development of music in Vienna owes to Bach's great art, and also how much Vienna has done for his music and that of his sons.

TWELVE WAGNER LETTERS DISCOVERED IN VIENNA. Twelve unknown letters written by Richard Wagner in the years 1875-76 were recently discovered in a file of the State Theater Administration in Vienna. The letters had been addressed to the Vienna Opera, with which the German composer was then negotiating the performance of one of his operas and from which he was also requesting the release of certain singers for the Bayreuth Festivals.

AUSTRIAN WRITER HANS MUELLER-EINIGEN DIES. The famous Austrian poet and playwright Hans Mueller-Einigen died on March 10 at the age of 68 in Switzerland. His books and plays had already earned him a great reputation when he joined the German motion picture company UFA. He was later associated with Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer in Hollywood, where he collaborated on many scripts.

NEARLY 50,000 COPIES OF "AUSTRIA BOOK" SOLD. With the first printing of 40,000 copies of the German edition of the "Book of Austria" almost exhausted, a second printing of 20,000 additional copies has now gone to press.

The French edition has already sold more than two thirds and the English edition more than one third of the first printing. These sales were made almost exclusively in Austria proper, inasmuch as negotiations with foreign distributors have not yet been completed.

The leather-bound luxury edition is in great demand by Austrian firms and private individuals as a gift for firms and friends abroad.

WILLI FORST RECEIVES AUSTRIAN "OSCAR". On March 9, Willi Forst, well-known Austrian film producer and director, received the "Graf Sascha Kolowrat Challenge Award" - the Austrian equivalent of the American "Oscar" - for his motion picture "Wiener Maedel" (Vienna Girls), which was released in 1949 and received wide acclaim. Dr. Felix Hurdes, Minister of Education, handed the valuable gold cup to the Austrian producer and expressed Austria's gratitude and recognition for his great contribution to the Austrian film industry.

VATICAN HONORS AUSTRIAN FILM. The Austrian film "Matthaeuspassion" (St. Matthew's Passion), in which the famous composition of Johann Sebastian Bach, conducted by Herbert Karajan, is illustrated by art masterpieces from all periods, and which was completed last year, has been singled out by the Vatican for high praise. In a letter to the Italian distributor of the picture, the Papal Commission for Educational and Religious Films expressed the hope that "this film may be shown all over the world and that it may arouse feelings of faith and forgiveness."

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON AUSTRIAN SUMMER SCHOOLS.

SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF INNSBRUCK

Place: Mayrhofen in the Zillertal, Tyrol.

Time: Four series of courses of twenty days each, starting on June 25, July 16, August 6 and August 27 respectively.

A. Courses and Discussion Groups:

9 - 12 a.m.

1. Courses for University Students of German:

Interpretation of Poetry, History of the German Language, Literature, Methods of Teaching German, Grammar, Phonetics, Style.

2. General Language Courses:

(a) For Beginners: Elementary German, Forms of Greeting, Colloquial German, etc.
(b) For Advanced Students: Oral practice, Discussions, Idioms, Grammar, Reading, etc.

5 - 7 p.m.

Discussion Groups - Subjects: Current problems of everyday life in Austria, education, universities, books, constitution, political parties, recent developments, the learned professions, the theatre, journalism, sport.

8 p.m.

Lectures delivered by University Professors and other Lecturers, some of which will be repeated in English and French; Concerts, Social Events.

B. Special Program:

General Lectures: Alpine Geography and Landscape. Tyrolean Art. Austrian Baroque Style. Salzburg, the City of Mozart. Life and Customs in the Austrian Alps. Vienna, past and present.

Special Lectures: Austrian political thought throughout the Centuries. Austria in Roman Times. The role of Austria in European History. The German Dialects. Austria's Economic Problems. The Austrian Medical School.

Music: The Salzburg Festival (introduction and musical interpretation). The Development of Austrian Music. Chamber Music. Piano Concerts. Choir Singing.

Dramatic Art: The Vienna Burgtheater. Poetry Recitals.

Credits: Certificates of attendance will be issued on request.

Language: Lectures will be given in German with most of them repeated in English and French.

Cost: 1000 Austrian schillings (app. $40.00) per person for each course (not 900 schilling as erroneously stated in Vol.III # 1 of the AUSTRIAN INFORMATION Bulletin). This amount includes 20 days' full board and single or double room accomodations in various hotels and villas, tips, tax, social entertainments and mountain tours; special fees are charged for bus excursions and for sports (riding, lawn tennis, swimming, fishing). For groups of 25 students or more, the price will be reduced to 900 schilling per person.

Social Entertainment: Dancing. Tyrolean Parties ("Schuhplattler"). Folk Dancing and Singing. Debating Competitions.

Bus Excursions to: Innsbruck (Schwaz, Hall, Schloss Ambrass), Achensee, Grossglockner-Hochalpenstrasse, Salzburg with visit to Festival, Vienna (4 days), Oberammergau (The Passion Play).

Inquiries and Applications should be addressed to: The Secretary, International Summer Courses, Meinhardstrasse 3, Innsbruck, Austria.

SIXTH INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL OF THE AUSTRIAN COLLEGE.

Place: Alpbach near Innsbruck, Tyrol.
Time: August 19 - September 8.
Languages: German and English. (Lectures and reports are scheduled to be translated into English; some seminars will be held in English, some in German. A thorough knowledge of German or English is required.)

Admission requirements: Preferably graduates and postgraduates; at least one year attendance at a College or University is required. The number of American students will be limited to 20.

Program:

General Theme: "Nature and History".

Seminars: Philosophy, the Philosophy of History, Theology, History, Literature, Psychology, Law, Economics, Sociology, Mathematics, Physics, Music, Fine Arts.

Lectures: Leading Scholars and Artists from various countries will lecture or perform at the summer school.

Planned Discussions: Oecumenical Problems, Stage and Screen, the Position of the European Intellectual, European Economic Problems.

Exhibitions: Modern Art, Recently published Books from various European Countries.

Concerts: Open-air performance of Igor Stravinsky's "L'Histoire d'un Soldat", Gaspar Cassado (Cello), Two Concerts by Soloists.

Poetry Readings.

Tours: On September 8, participants will be guests of the city of Innsbruck on a tour to the town and will lunch at a mountain hotel near Innsbruck.

Cost: 900 schillings(app. $35.00), which includes registration, tuition, board and room (in hotels or private houses, two to four beds to a room), miscellaneous expenses.

Applications should be addressed to: Austrian College Society, Kolingasse 19, Vienna IX, Austria. Additional information may also be obtained by writing to: Austrian Consulate General, 509 Fifth Avenue, New York 17, NY.

Information on the following summer schools to be held in Austria this year appeared in Vol. III # 1 of the AUSTRIAN INFORMATION Bulletin:

Summer School of the University of Vienna at Traunsee Castle near Gmunden, Upper Austria: July 23 to September 2.

International Music and Theater Courses of the Salzburg Mozarteum, at Salzburg: July 20 to August 30.

International Summer School of the Theological Faculty of Salzburg, at Salzburg: August 10 to 31.

Summer School of Economics at Bad Ischl, Upper Austria: August 1 to 30.

AUSTRIAN SKIERS WIN AGAIN. Austria's ace skiers chalked up another international victory when members of the successful Austrian team overcame strong international competition to win both the men's and women's National Slalom Championships on Mount Lincoln, California, on March 12. Hans Senger placed first before his compatriots Edi Mall and Christl Pravda, and Resi Hammerer outscored her teammates Erika Mehringer and Lydia Gstrein to win first place.

On the 18th, Christian Pravda led his compatriots Edi Mall and Hans Vogler to victory in the U.S. Eastern Ski Association's Championship on Mount Mansfield, in Stowe, Vt., winning the Combined Downhill and Slalom events. On the 24th, almost the entire Austrian national ski team left New York by plane on its return trip home. Dagmar Rom, twice world champion, and Egon Schoepf remained in Aspen, Col., where they are participating in the production of a ski film. The brothers Franz and Pepi Gabl decided to remain as coaches for some time.

AUSTRIAN CONSULATE GENERAL
509 FIFTH AVENUE
NEW YORK 17, N. Y.

NEW YORK, N.Y. 1950

GRAND CENTRAL STATION

FOR DEFENSE

Miss Clara W. Edmunds,
Librarian Washington World
Affairs Center, 1712 H St.
NW. Washington 6, D.C.

2000 MHD